

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 MC-02 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /137 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2649

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08039

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, GW, TU

SUBJECT: FRG MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY

REF: BONN 8485, JUNE 16, 1972

1. FOREIGN OFFICE NATO DEPT OFFICIAL TELLS US GERMAN REPS WILL VISIT TURKEY NEXT WEEK FOR TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS RELATED TO EIGHTH TRANCHE OF FRG MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE TURKS. AS IN THE SEVENTH TRANCHE, A TOTAL OF DM 100 MILLION WILL BE INVOLVED, MADE UP OF 80 PERCENT NEW MATERIAL AND 20 PERCENT SURPLUS MATERIAL. FRG MILITARY AID TRANCHES FOR TURKEY GENERALLY LAST 18 MONTHS. THE SEVENTH TRANCHE WAS DUE TO CONCLUDE JUNE 30, 1974. WHILE THERE WILL BE NO FORMAL CHANGE IN THE DURATIONS, THE SEVENTH TRANCHE WILL BE STRETCHED OUT THROUGH THIS SUMMER AND THE EIGHTH TRANCHE PROBABLY WILL BEGIN IN OCTOBER.

2. AS IN THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH TRANCHE, THE MAJOR NEW
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MATERIALS ITEM WILL BE LOGISTIC SUPPORT AND SPARE PARTS

FOR THE SIXTEEN C-160 TRANSALLS PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED BY THE FRG TO TURKEY AS MILITARY AID AND THE FOUR TRANSALLS SUPPLIED BY BONN AS PART OF EDIP. OUR SOURCE ESTIMATED THAT ALMOST HALF OF THE DM 100 MILLION EIGHTH MILITARY ASSISTANCE TRANCHE WILL COVER THIS ITEM.

3. OTHER NEW MATERIAL ITEMS WILL INCLUDE CONTINUATION OF THE FINANCING OF TWO 1000 TON SUBMARINES FOR THE TURKISH NAVY; THE GERMANS ARE FINANCING DM 100 MILLION OF THE DM 122 MILLION COST OF THE SUBS. THIS FINANCING WAS PART OF THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH TRANCHES AND IS CONTINUING INTO THE EIGHTH TRANCHE AS WELL. CONSTRUCTION OF THE SUBS IS PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE.

4. ANOTHER PORTION OF THE EIGHTH TRANCHE WILL BE DEVOTED TO COMPLETION OF A TANK REPAIR PLANT NEAR ISTANBUL. THE EXACT AMOUNT OF THIS PROJECT WILL BE DETERMINED AFTER THE GERMANS INSPECT THE PLANT.

5. GIVEN CURRENT STATE OF FRG/GREEK RELATIONS, OUR SOURCE TELLS US THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS AT PRESENT TO SEEK THE NECESSARY BUNDESTAG APPROVAL FOR EITHER NEW MILITARY AID PROJECTS TO GREECE OR THE ENDORSEMENT OF PRIOR TRANSACTIONS.

6. COMMENT: IT MAY BE NOTED THAT, DURING HIS TENURE AS DEFENSE MINISTER AND FINANCE MINISTER, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WAS A STRONG OPPONENT OF FRG MILITARY ASSISTANCE OR ACTIVE FRG MILITARY SALES PROGRAMS. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SCHMIDT'S VIEWS ON THESE ISSUES WOULD BE LIKELY TO CHANGE NOW THAT HE HAS BECOME CHANCELLOR.
HILLENBRAND

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